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July 2, 2002

## VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Box PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re:   **Applicant:**                   Infineon Technologies, AG  
      **Serial No:**                 10/069806  
      **English Title:**           Driver circuit and method for operating  
                                     a driver circuit  
      **Attorney Docket No:**     32226.18

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed for filing are the following:

1. International Preliminary Examination Report; and
2. A self-addressed stamped post card to return to us acknowledging receipt of the enclosed.

It is our understanding that there is no fee required for this filing. If that understanding is incorrect, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any payment of the required fees to Deposit Account No. 02-3732.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeffrey R. Stone

JRS/maf

Enclosures

cc: Infineon Technologies, AG

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

(E 23478)  
US 23475

WI: 18/06/02 not. bt

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**  
**NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL**  
**OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION**  
**OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY**  
**EXAMINATION REPORT**

VIERING, JENTSCHURA & PARTNER  
 Postfach 22 14 43  
 D-80504 München  
 ALLEMAGNE

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

31 May 2002 (31.05.02)

- 7 Juni 2002

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P 19695

First / Due Date

**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION**

International application No.

PCT/DE00/02875

International filing date (day/month/year)

23 August 2000 (23.08.00)

Applicant

INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES AG et al

**1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.**

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

**2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.**

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

CN,JP,KR,US

The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

EP

**3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).**

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO  
 34, chemin des Colombettes  
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

El Mostafa MOUSSAID

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Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DE00/02875	International filing date (day/month/year) 23 August 2000 (23.08.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 25 August 1999 (25.08.99)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H03K 17/00		
Applicant INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES AG		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>3</u> sheets.</p>
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>

Date of submission of the demand 22 February 2001 (22.02.01)	Date of completion of this report 23 November 2001 (23.11.2001)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE00/02875

## I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages 1-17, as originally filed,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed,  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as amended under Article 19,  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
Nos. 5-16, filed with the letter of 06 August 2001 (06.08.2001),  
Nos. 1-4, filed with the letter of 07 November 2001 (07.11.2001).
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/5-5/5, as originally filed,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO

## 2. Citations and explanations

Industrial applicability is undoubtedly established.

This report refers to the following documents:

D1: WO-A-99/26340 (Atmel Corp.) 27 May 1999 (1999-05-27)

D2: US-A-5 872 473 (Williams Timothy J) 16 February  
1999 (1999-02-16).

Figure 3 of D2 and Figure 6 of D1 appear to be possible, real embodiments of the circuit shown only structurally in Figure 1 of the present application - see especially the feedback capacitors in said figures of the prior art.

However, the available prior art does not reveal the precise design according to Figure 3 - see especially the insertion of the feedback signal into the driver prestage with short-circuited first inverter stage and following second inverter stage.

Independent Claim 1 describes the essential features of this design, and dependent Claims 2-11 describe useful developments of the invention. Claim 16 describes an advantageous usage.

Method Claims 12-15 meet the requirements of inventive step inasmuch as the method presupposes the presence of a

driver stage according to Claims 1 to 11. However, if "for operating" were read as "suitable for operating", novelty would no longer be established over the above-mentioned prior art according to D1 or D2, for the aforesaid reasons.